

**EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**April 23, 2015**  
**AV Room 210 – 212 State Capitol**

**Members Present:** Kari Enget, Curt Halmrast, Lynn Hartman, June Herman, Jerry Jurena, Lynette Dickson, Tim Meyer, Karin Mongeon, Jeff Sather, Diane Witteman

**Members Not Present:** Terry Ault, Chet Pollert, Ken Reed

**DoH Representation:** Tom Nehring, Kelli Sears, Ruth Hursman, Shila Thorson, Elizabeth Pihlaja, Jan Franklund, Lindsey Narloch, Tim Wiedrich, and Kari Kuhn

**Others Present:** Adam Parker, Sherm Syverson, Jim DeMell, Mona Thompson, Joe Lies, Ralph Renger, Ron Lawler, Tom Petrik

Curt Halmrast welcomed the committee and introductions were made around the table.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made: EMSAC approval of January 22, 2015 meeting minutes.

Motion made by Diane Witteman; seconded by Kari Enget.

No further discussion; motion carried.

**Update Evaluations**

- North and South Dakota received LUCAS grant to include education but not enough initial funding for ample evaluation (\$450,000 each state over 3 year contract for evaluation)
- Center for Rural Health – UND was chosen to evaluate the effectiveness of the LUCAS device as well as evaluation of cardiac system
- Issues with evaluation to the device include rural issues, data issues and system issues
- Evaluating system issues: Think like a system; establish boundaries (beginning / end); have the right people involved; have the right things reported to ensure the information is used and acted on
  - EMS system boundaries: 911 call to hand-off at hospital
- EMS feedback related challenges: HIPAA; Compliance / volunteers; a lack of feedback communication
- Improving feedback: interviewing several services; mapping processes; integrating time stamp with process map
- Motivation for inputting good information: friendly competition; high achievers set standards – pilot project; leadership
- End boundary should be submission of documentation rather than hand-off of patient

**Review / Approval of ‘EMSAC Purpose’**

- Conflict of interest forms will be available at July meeting to be signed by council members
  - ‘...issue arise...’ too broad of a statement.
  - Industry wide vs specific to individual organization
  - Direct financial impact on individual or organization possibly with a cap / amount (\$10,000)

## 2015 Funding Area Grants

- Amanda provided statistics regarding the current cycle
  - 7 of 69 funding areas funded have yet to spend any money
    - Those awards total \$260,620
  - 42 of 69 (60%) funding areas funded have spent less than 75% of funds
  - 27 of 69 (40%) funding areas funded have spent 75% or more of funds
    - 7 of those have spent 100% of funds
- Amanda will be making calls to those who have only spent a small percentage.
- Grant guidance and application for upcoming cycle were sent March 18, 2015.
  - The self-assessment tool was included in the application again this year. We would like to track the scores from year to year.
  - A list of disallowed items was included so applicants are notified.
  - Emphasis on collaboration and reduction of funding areas in the future
  - Clarification regarding collaboration of multiple funding areas and the ability to receive more points and possible higher funding
- No specific number of funding areas has been decided on
- Looking for dramatic shift and asking for EMSAC input
  - Jim D has heard concern over direction of lowering number of FAs and ability to continue with business as they do now
  - The suggestion was made to redo the whole process
  - Possibility of surveying services regarding who they work closely with as to keep those that are already collaborating together
- Amanda form a committee
  - Kari Enget
  - Diane Witterman
  - Lynette Dickson
  - Jim DeMell

## Rules

- DEMST is working on final review of rules with Tim W but there have been scheduling issues
- Present to August 11 Health Council meeting
- Additional rules will be added for licensure of community paramedics as well as air ambulance
  - These new rules are not expected to be completed by the august health council meeting

## Update Training Contract - NDEMSEA

- DoH negotiating contract with NDEMSEA.
  - Phase 1 training – to be completed by end of biennium
  - Utilizing curriculum developed by PHAC for stroke training
  - Each service will be eligible for training by end of biennium
  - Ability to change training emphasis by DEMST based on needs of EMS community

## HB 1255 / Air Medical

- In response to recent events including air ambulance
- A subcommittee will be formed to work on these rules

## **DEMST Moving**

- EPR is moving to a new location including DEMST
- Moving through phases of construction and looking at an August move date

## **System Updates**

### **Trauma System – Ruth Hursman - Tom**

- Ruth is no longer with DEMST and will be missed. She has moved to a Division Director position with HPP within EPR
- Nicole Brunelle has accepted position and will come with a lot of nursing / flight experience
  - Starting June 1

### **Stroke/Cardiac System – Shila Thorson**

#### **Stroke**

- Recently sent out applications for acute stroke ready designation and have received some back
- Applying for grant
  - \$700,000 – \$800,000 / year for 4 – 5 years
  - 6 given to state governments
  - One component focuses on data infrastructure
  - Following patients progress through the continuum of care
  - Seeking EMSAC support

Motion made: EMSAC supports Shila and the Stroke System seeking this grant for North Dakota.

Motion made by June Herman; seconded by Diane Witteman.

No further discussion; motion carried.

#### **Cardiac**

- Continue with meeting Mission Lifeline deliverables
- May 18 – 19 conference
- Training through NDEMSEA
- Hosting webinars initiative
- Dr sather shared that he attended the Mission Lifeline conference in Minnesota and North Dakota is far ahead in system development

### **Cardiac Ready Community – Tom**

- Obtain buy-in from community for cardiac related illness and onset of symptoms
- Deals with the entire cardiac continuum of care based on the system developed in King County
- Kari Enget and Powers Lake have volunteered to be the pilot community for this initiative before implementing state-wide
- An organizational meeting will be held mid-May

#### **Funding - Tom**

- Stroke funding is in good position
- Cardiac funding

- OAR was submitted and was scored as 6<sup>th</sup> highest but was not funded by the governor
- Unfunded mandate
- Continue with cardiac system of care task force

#### **EMSC – Elizabeth Pihlaja**

- Pediatric recognition program
  - Developed by EMSC advisory committee
  - This is a voluntary program and details will be advertised when the program is ready
  - Working on a comprehensive resource guide for EDs to send out with equipment
- EMSC Day
  - Local preschool
- Working on sending out lots of equipment
- Working on progress report for this grant year
- Looking at pediatric dosing guides for distribution
  - Researching possible app as well as updated Broselow tapes. Looking for possible app

#### **Education – Kelli Sears**

- There is an education committee meeting in Jamestown on April 30.
- NDEMSEA contract
- Amidst the second recertification cycle with NDCCP
  - Working on pulling all NREMT pilot states together for meeting
- Instructor refreshers – 3 scheduled for this year
  - 2 completed
  - One in June in Minot
- Working on pediatric protocols with Dr Sather
- Working on defining LCCR definition in regards to SIM trucks, NDEMSEA training, etc.)

#### **Data – Lindsey Narloch**

- Working on performance measures project (emscompass.org)
  - NHTSA funded
  - Projected to 2018
- Licensure database – North Dakota is one of 13 states does not have a public portal for online verification of licensure
  - Funding issue
- Looking at usability studies for ePCR systems
- Working on trauma registry meeting with Minnesota and South Dakota looking at ACS risk adjusted benchmarking to maintain status

#### **Leadership**

- Level I
  - Registration went through DEMST and it seemed all went well
  - Looking at possibly having a leadership class reunion during the EMS conference
    - Funding
  - Ways to have more evaluation at the end of training regarding skills obtained

- Funding for training in the future

## **Updates - Subcommittees**

### **System Development – Tom Nehring**

- No meeting

### **Dispatch – Lindsey Narloch**

- No meeting
- Continue working with DES and dispatch

### **EMS Information Interoperability – Lindsey Narloch**

- No meeting
- Participants think it can be done, but the how needs to be formatted

### **Community Paramedic – Ken Reed**

- FM has been going full force since February
  - Have added to the model originally started
  - Patients within Sanford health system
  - Home visits 7-7 M-F
  - Has made a huge impact on savings
  - 3 active community paramedics
  - Very effective
- Rugby
  - Dealing mainly with hospice patients
- SB 2321 and SB 2043 is in session now dealing with community paramedic; BON testified in a 'neutral' position regarding 2321
- Carrington and Mandaree are interested in joining

### **Air Medical – Tom Nehring**

- No meeting
- Plan to meet soon

### **EMS / CAH Integration**

- CAH using EMS personnel to staff hospitals
  - Paramedics have to be overseen by Nurse Executive
  - Cannot admit patient, discharge patient or make any patient care decisions
- Stakeholder discussions / education
  - Flex funding available for a meeting
  - Possibly combine with NDHA annual meeting in October to alleviate some travel expense

### **Needs Assessment –Casselton**

- FM applied for ALS license in Casselton causing a need for a needs assessment
- Needs assessment has been completed
- Decision was made on Friday (4/17) – license application denied
- Casselton has upgraded to ALS through application process

## **Other Business**

- First National Rural EMS Conference
  - Cheyenne, WY on May 5 - 6
  - \$200 registration
  - 165 registered
  - Hope for annual conference
  - Approved for conference grant reimbursement
- EMS Rendezvous Recap
  - 670 attendees (120 more than last year)
  - 55 exhibitors
- Homeland security grant
  - Sponsoring service to apply – could be used for leadership training
  - Joe will do some checking
  - Past funding has gone to FM and Metro for buses
  - EMS hasn't gotten a lot of funding from this
    - Mona – Kidder County would host / apply
  - Looking at 2016
- CPR in schools renewed for biennium
  - Streamline process to limit school confusion
  - New curriculum standards with PE teachers stepping up to the plate

## **Upcoming Meetings**

- July 23, 2015
- October 22, 2015

## **Adjourn**